

REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are pending in this application. Applicant appreciates the Office Action's indication that claims 6, 7 and 9 contain allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment, Figure 6 is amended, as the Examiner requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge receipt of the certified copy of the priority document filed September 9, 2003.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge consideration of the references listed on the Form PTO-1449 of the Information Disclosure Statement concurrently filed herewith.

The Office Action objects to the drawings. Figure 6 is amended to be labeled as "Related Art." Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-5, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,025,230 to Kondo et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Kondo discloses all elements recited in claims 1-5, 8 and 10. However, Kondo does not disclose or suggest a transmission gate which is installed between an output terminal of an inverting amplifier and an input terminal of a buffer circuit, as recited in claims 1 and 10.

Kondo discloses a device including a transmission gate TR and an inverter IV1. See Figures 1 and 6; col. 1, lines 26-48; and col. 11, lines 40-65. Kondo discloses that the transmission gate TR is connected in parallel to the inverter IV1. See Figures 1 and 6. In particular, Kondo discloses that the transmission gate TR is connected between the input Xin and the output Xout of the inverter IV1. The output Xout is directly connected to IV2 (buffer circuit), without any element installed therebetween. Kondo does not disclose a device in which the transmission gate TR is installed between the output Xout of the inverter IV1 and the "buffer circuit" IV2. Therefore, Kondo does not disclose or suggest a transmission gate

that is connect in series between an output of an inverter and an input of a buffer circuit.

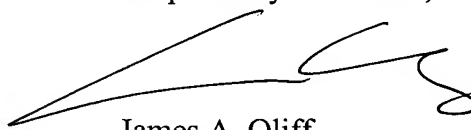
Thus, Kondo does not disclose or suggest a transmission gate which is installed between an output terminal of an inverting amplifier and an input terminal of a buffer circuit, as recited in claims 1 and 10.

For at least the above reasons, Kondo does not disclose or suggest the subject matter recited in claims 1 and 10, and claims 2-5 and 8 depending therefrom. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:GL/bdh

Attachments:

Replacement Sheet
Information Disclosure Statement

Date: May 18, 2005

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 6 and replaces the original sheet with Fig. 6.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet